

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER



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THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER



THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHELF

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MYTHS**



I FELT ABOUT A HUNDRED ARROWS PRICKING MY
HANDS AND FACE

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

ADAPTED BY
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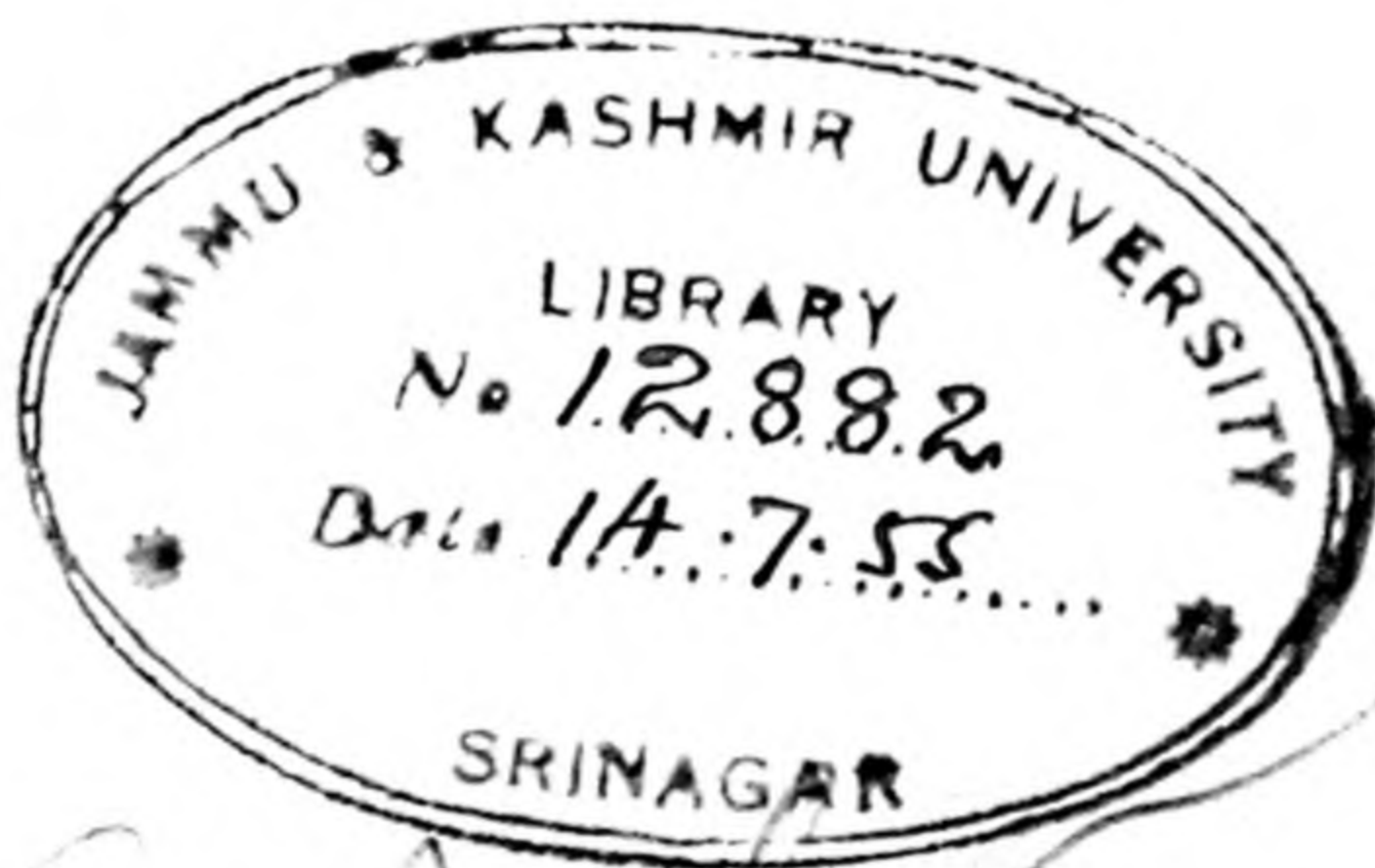
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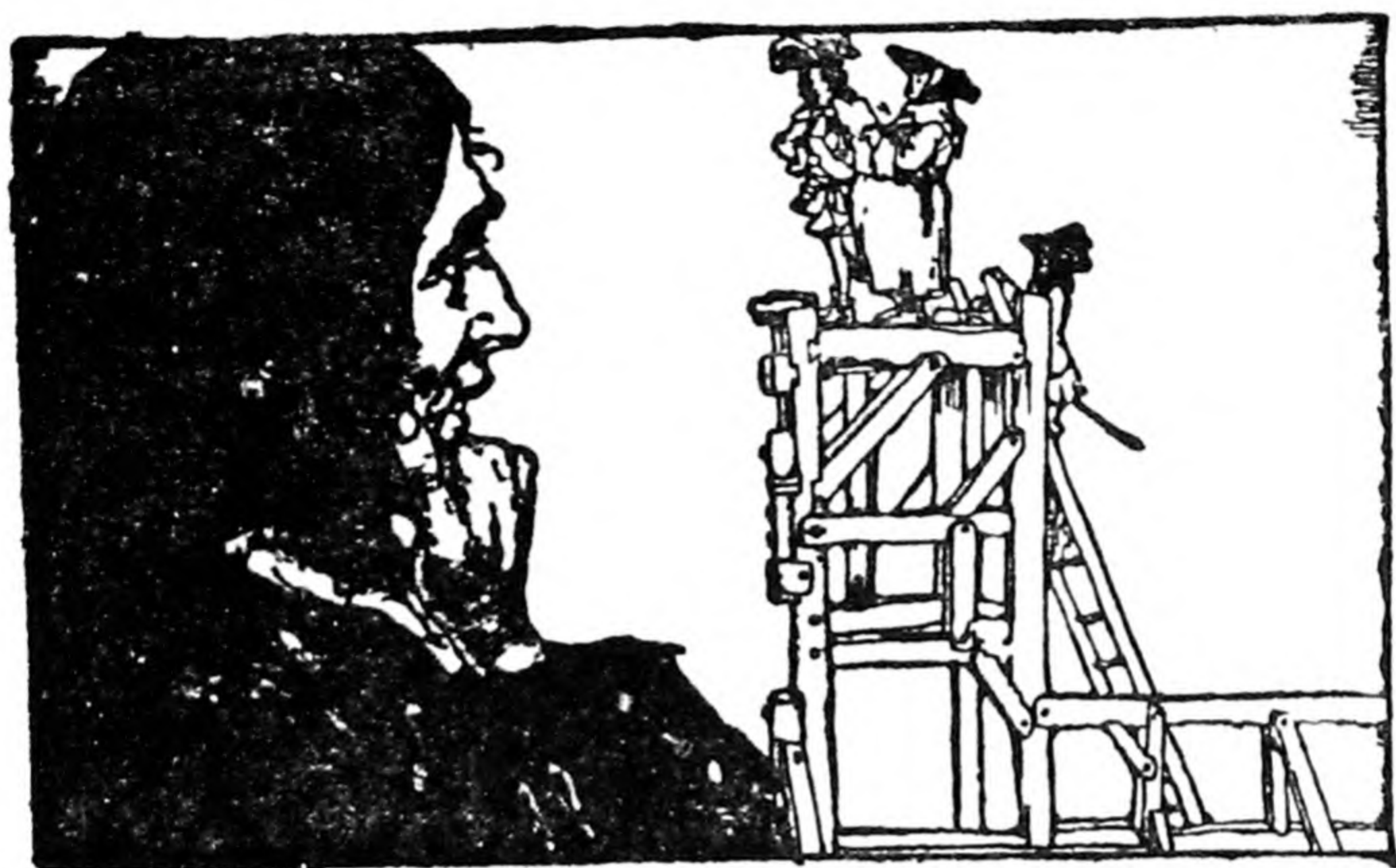
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LILLIPUT

MY TRAVELS BEGIN

MY name is Lemuel Gulliver. When a boy I lived in Nottinghamshire, and after going to school and college I became a doctor on a ship. Afterwards I married and lived in London for a time. But I loved the sea, and on May 4, 1699, I joined a ship going to the West Indies, and on this voyage I had many strange adventures.

First we were driven before a dreadful storm raging off the coast of Australia. The ship dashed on to a rock, split in

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

two, and all except myself were drowned. I swam and struggled and at last reached the shore.

Seeing no houses or people, and being very tired, I lay down and slept soundly for hours. At daylight I awoke, and on trying to get up found I could not stir, for my arms and legs were fastened to the ground. My hair, which was long, was tied down also, and across my body were many cords. ✕

I heard a noise about me, but being unable to turn my head I could see nothing but the sky. Soon I felt something alive moving on my leg; it walked lightly almost to my chin.

Bending my eyes downward, as best I could, I saw a little man only six inches high carrying a bow and arrows. Then others began running over me. I roared loudly and they ran back in fright, some hurting themselves by falling down from my sides.

They returned, however, and began crying out strange words. I struggled to get free and managed to break some strings

MORE ABOUT THE LITTLE PEOPLE

and pull out the pegs that held my left arm. I also loosened some of the threads that bound my hair, so that I could turn my head slightly.

The little people, seeing this, shouted, and immediately I felt about a hundred arrows pricking my hands and face like needles. I struggled, and instantly more arrows came. Some little creatures even tried to prick my sides, but their spears would not pierce my leathern jacket.

At last I decided to lie still till night-time, and then to try to free myself.

MORE ABOUT THE LITTLE PEOPLE

WHEN the little people saw I was quiet they sent no more arrows, but by the noise I knew that many more were crowding round.

For over an hour I heard them knocking as if at work near my right ear. Turning my head as far as I could, I found they had built a platform about eighteen

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

inches high, big enough to hold four people.

From this platform, reached by means of a ladder, a very important-looking person cried out certain words three times. Immediately about fifty little men began cutting the strings that held my head.

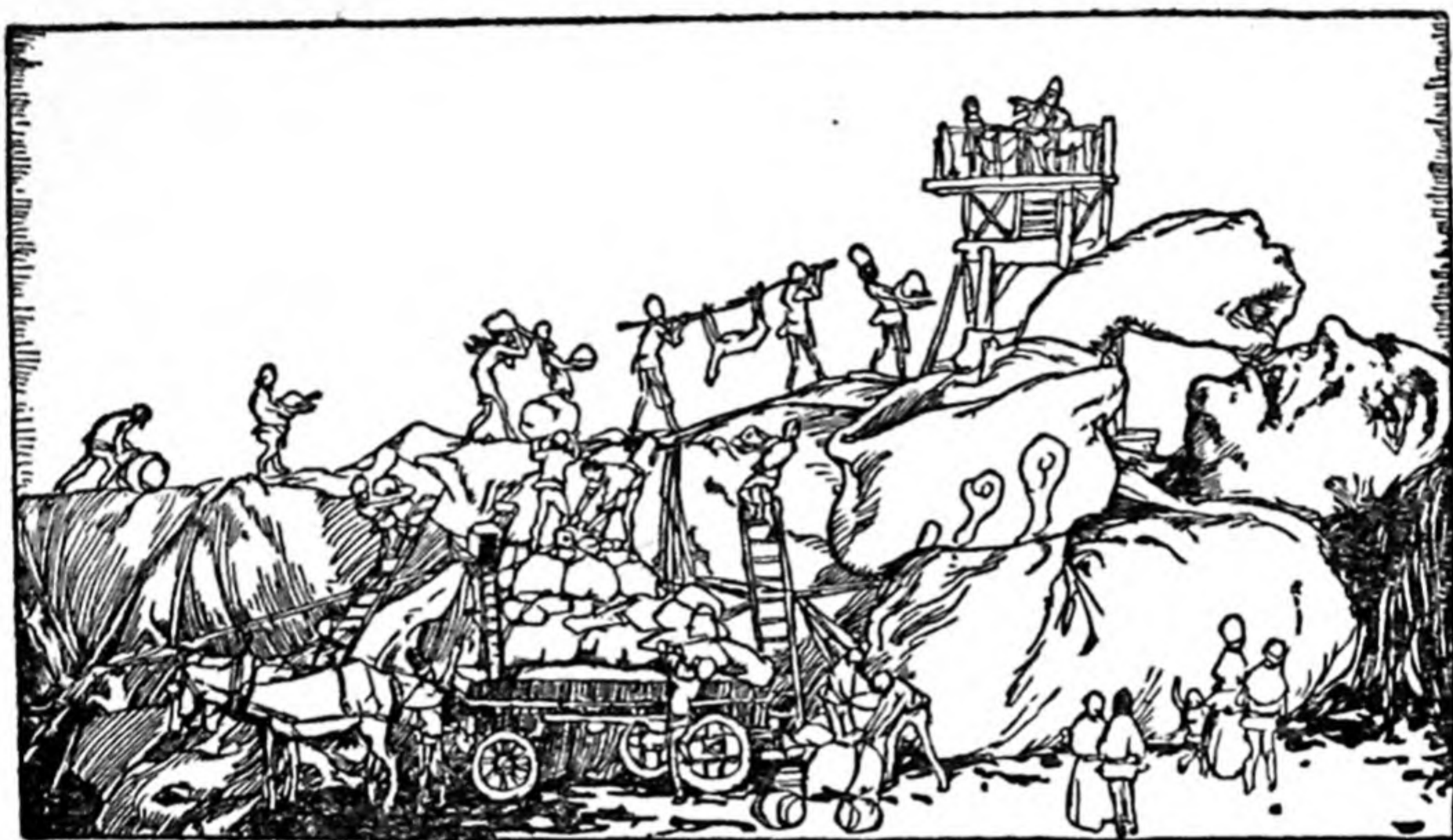
He was taller than the rest, and a page, about as high as my finger, held up his train. He made a long speech of which I could not understand one word, nor could he understand my answer.

Being famished with hunger, I showed him I wanted food by putting my fingers often to my mouth. Immediately ladders were put against my side, and a hundred little men climbed to my mouth with baskets of meat. The joints of meat were well cooked, but very tiny—no bigger than a wing of a lark.

The people were astonished at my huge appetite, for I ate several joints at each mouthful and swallowed three loaves at a time.

I showed them I was thirsty, and they

MORE ABOUT THE LITTLE PEOPLE
slung up two of their biggest barrels
(which, however, held only half a pint
each). These they rolled to my hand
and I drank each off at one swallow. I



**LITTLE MEN CLIMBED TO MY MOUTH WITH BASKETS
OF MEAT**

wanted more, for it tasted like wine, but
they had none left to give me.

They shouted and danced joyfully
upon my chest, and I was tempted to
seize dozens of them and dash them to
the ground, but felt it would be unwise.
As I did not make any signs for more
food, one of the chief men, with twelve
attendants, mounted to my ankle, walked
towards my face and talked for a while,

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

often pointing forward to show that they intended to take me in that direction as a prisoner, but that I should have food enough and be well treated.

Hundreds of the little people loosened my cords and I was able then to turn on to my side. They also daubed my face with ointment to heal the wounds made by their arrows.

I became very sleepy, and no wonder, for the Emperor's doctors had mixed sleeping medicine with my wine, and for eight hours I slept soundly.

MY JOURNEY TO THE CITY

WHILE I slept, five hundred carpenters and engineers had been busy building a huge wooden framework, with twenty-two wheels, only three inches high. On this they intended taking me to their chief city, but the difficulty was to lift me on to it.

Eighty poles, each one foot high, were set up, and cords like coarse thread were fastened to bandages which had been

MY JOURNEY TO THE CITY



TOWARDS THE CITY

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

tied round my neck, hands, body, and legs. Nine hundred pygmies drew up these cords by pulleys fastened on the poles, and in about three hours I was slung on to the wagon, and tied fast. Then fifteen hundred horses, each about four and a half inches high, drew the wagon towards the city.

All this happened while I slept. I was awakened by a strange accident. Two or three little people, wanting to see how I looked when asleep, climbed on to the wagon and crept up to my face. One put the sharp end of his sword up my nose. This tickled it like a straw, making me sneeze and wake up.

At night five hundred guards kept watch each side of me, half with torches and half with bows and arrows, ready to shoot if I tried to move.

Next day we reached the city gates and were met by the Emperor and his Court, but the Emperor did not run the risk of climbing on my body.

There was an old temple near, and as it was their largest building they decided

MY JOURNEY TO THE CITY

to let me lodge in it, for I could creep through the gateway and lie on the floor inside.

The Emperor's blacksmith fastened me to a window by fifty-nine chains, each about two feet long and as thick as a lady's watch-chain. These were locked to my leg with thirty-six padlocks. Opposite this temple was a five-foot tower. From this the King and people could get a better view of me. Altogether about a hundred thousand pygmies came from the city, and I believe quite ten thousand of them climbed at different times on to my body.

The workmen, finding I was firmly chained, cut the strings that bound me, and I was able to stand up. I cannot describe the noise and surprise of the people when they saw me rise like a mountain and walk backward and forward the length of my chain.

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

THE EMPEROR'S PLANS

WHEN I stood up I was able to see the country round. Their fields seemed no bigger than flower-beds to me, and the tallest trees were only seven feet high.

As the Emperor was riding towards me his horse, taking fright at my size, reared up, and would have thrown the King off had not his servants held the bridle while he dismounted.

He walked round me admiringly, and ordered men to bring the food they had prepared for me. Twenty wagons full of meat and ten full of drink were pushed forward. In a few mouthfuls I emptied them all, while the Empress and royal children watched me in astonishment.

The King was taller than the others by almost the breadth of my nail. His dress was simple, but he had a helmet of gold and jewels, with a plume on the top. His sword, set with jewels, was only three inches long. He held it ready lest I should seek to harm him.

THE EMPEROR'S PLANS

His voice was clear, but I could not understand his words, nor he mine, though I answered in several languages. Later he went away, leaving a strong guard to keep the people from crowding round me. Some, however, dared to shoot arrows as I sat on the ground, and one nearly struck my eye.

The chief of the guard ordered the six worst to be seized and given to me for punishment. As they were pushed within my reach I put five in my coat-pocket, and pretended I was going to eat the sixth one alive. He squalled terribly, and every one gasped when they saw me take out my penknife. But I soon put their minds at rest, for, cutting the strings which bound him, I set him free. I treated them all alike, taking them one by one out of my pocket and setting them free. The people were delighted with my kindness. At night I crawled into my house and lay down to sleep.

During the next fortnight the little people were busy making a bed for me

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

from six hundred of their beds, which were sewn together and arranged four-fold, though even then I still felt the hardness of the ground through it. Blankets, sheets, and coverlets were made in the same way, and these kept me fairly comfortable.

SEARCHING MY POCKETS

BEFORE long the people came in such crowds to see me that there was scarcely any one left in the towns and villages, so the Emperor ordered all who had seen me once to return home.

The nobles held meetings to decide what to do with me. They feared I might break loose, or that my huge appetite would cause a famine. Some said, "Starve him to death"; and others, "Shoot him with poisoned arrows"; but in the end they decided not to kill me.

Every morning six bullocks, forty sheep, and also bread and wine were given me. Six hundred servants, who lived in tents

SEARCHING MY POCKETS

near, waited on me. Three hundred tailors were ordered to make me a suit. Six clever men came to teach me the language, while the horses of the King and nobles rode round me every day, to get used to my huge size.

In about three weeks I learned much, and the King often came to talk with me. I begged to be set free, but he refused until my pockets had been searched by two officers, who came with pen and ink and paper to do this. I put them into each pocket in turn (except that one where I kept my spectacles) and this is what they wrote :

“In the right coat-pocket of the Man Mountain we found a square of coarse cloth big enough for a carpet in the royal palace.” (This was my handkerchief.)

“In the left pocket was a huge silver chest; when it was opened one of us fell in and was covered with a kind of dust, which made us sneeze many times.” (This was my snuff-box.)

“In his waistcoat pocket we discovered a large bundle made of layers of thin

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

white stuff tied with rope and marked with huge figures and letters. The Man Mountain called this his pocket-book."

"Next we found an immense machine with long poles like railings. We remember seeing the Man Mountain comb his hair with this."

"In another pocket was a hollow pillar of iron the length of one of us. Its name is 'pistol,' but we cannot tell how it is used. There were also flat round pieces of white metal. They were too heavy to lift. He called them money."

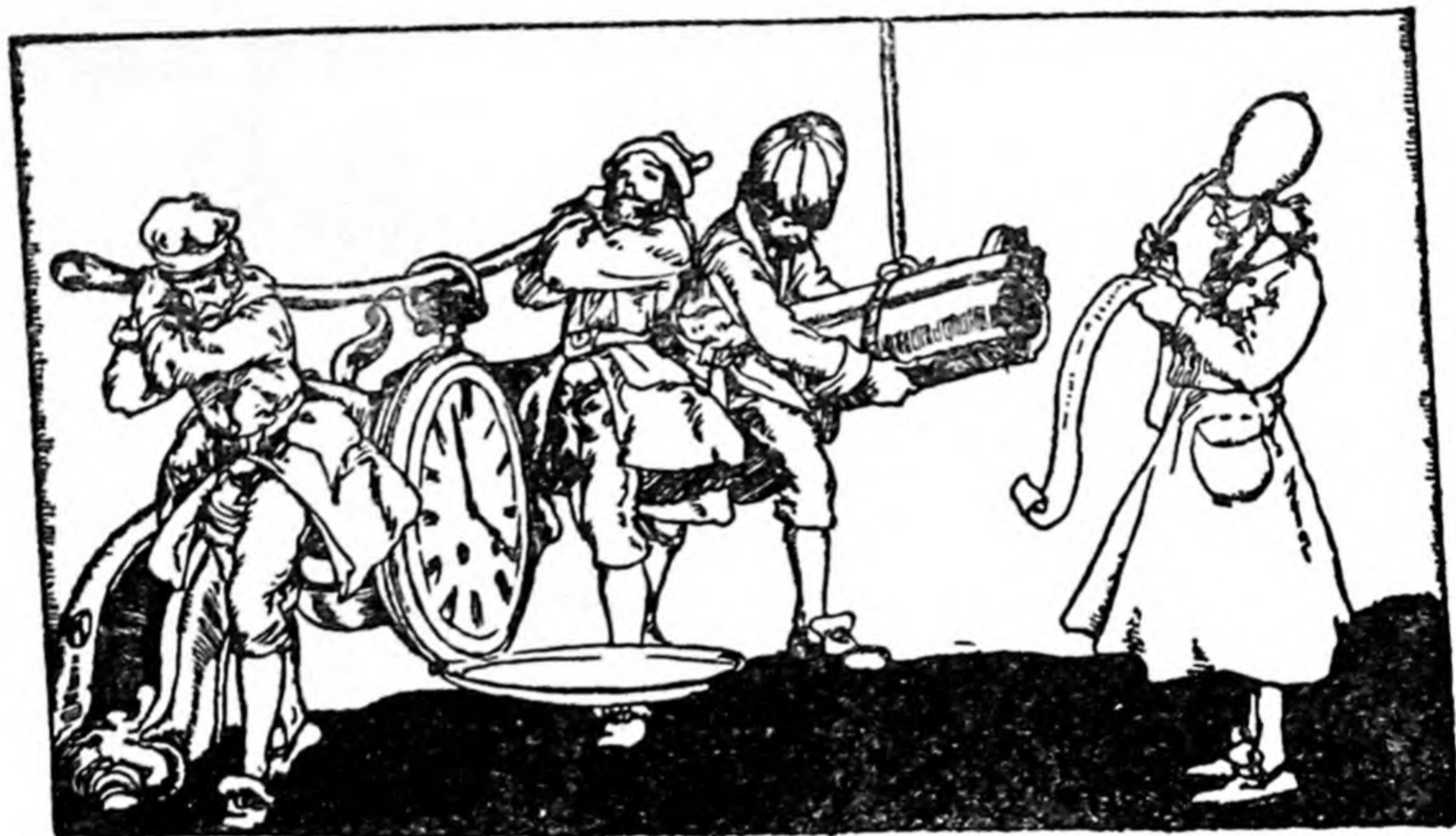
"From one pocket hung a great chain, and at the end was a wonderful machine. He held it to our ears, and it made a noise like a watermill. We think it must be some unknown animal. He says it is a watch."

The Emperor read the list, then ordered me to give up my sword, while three thousand soldiers stood ready to shoot if I gave any trouble.

I drew it out and waved it to and fro. It glittered in the sunlight, and immediately the little people gave a

SEARCHING MY POCKETS

shout of terror and surprise. The King bade me put it back and cast it on the ground, which I did. He wanted to know how my pistol worked. I warned him not to be frightened, then let it off with



WATCH AND PISTOL

a bang. The noise so terrified them that hundreds fell down as if dead, though the King was braver than the rest.

He was curious too about my watch, and made two of his tallest soldiers carry it to the palace and hang it on a pole. The ticking noise amazed him.

Everything was returned to me except my sword and pistol, which were taken on a wagon to the King's stores.

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

AT PLAY

GRADUALLY the pygmies became less afraid of me. Sometimes I would lie down and let five or six dance on my hand. The children too used to play hide-and-seek in my hair.

One day the Emperor brought some of his famous rope-dancers to show me their skill. Those who dance most cleverly upon a slender thread no thicker than cotton, stretched about three feet from the ground, are chosen to help rule the country. Flimnap, the treasurer, can turn somersaults several times upon a wooden dish fixed to this thread.

Fine silken strands of blue, red, and green are given as prizes, and the nobles are very proud to wear them round their waists at Court.

The King's horses grew much bolder and would come to my very feet, or leap over my hand as I held it on the ground. One horseman jumped over my foot, shoe and all; this was very daring.

AT PLAY

One day I discovered an unusual way of amusing the Emperor. I asked for some sticks two feet long about the thickness of cane. Six woodmen brought these on wagons, each wagon drawn by



ONE HORSEMAN JUMPED OVER MY FOOT

eight horses. Fixing nine sticks in the ground to form a square I stretched my handkerchief tightly over the top of them like a platform and asked if twenty-four horses and riders could drill upon it. One by one I lifted them up. They galloped and pranced and pretended to fight a battle there. The Emperor was so delighted that he ordered the display to be given several times.

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

Once I lifted up the Emperor himself, and he gave the word of command. He even persuaded the Empress to let me hold her near the platform so that she could have a good view.

One accident happened when a spirited horse, pawing with his hoof, made a hole in my handkerchief and let the rider fall. I helped him up and he was not hurt, but we had no more of these battles.

A few days later news came that a great black object was lying near where I had waded ashore. Its edges were wide as a room, and the middle rose up as high as two men. At first they thought it was alive, but it did not move. Some of them had walked all round it and even climbed on each other's shoulders to the top. There it was flat, and by stamping on it they discovered it was hollow inside. They said it must belong to the Man Mountain.

At once I guessed it was my hat, and the next day the wagoners arrived with it—but not in very good condition, for

FREEDOM

they had bored two holes in the brim, fastened hooks and cords to them, and five horses had dragged the hat along on the ground more than half a mile.

One day I stood up with my legs apart making a great archway, and, for amusement, the King ordered three thousand soldiers on foot and three thousand horse soldiers to march under me like an army with drums beating, flags flying, and pikes pointing forward.

FREEDOM

AT last the Emperor and nobles decided to set me free if I would agree to the following rules :

1. The Man Mountain must not leave our land or enter our chief city without our consent.
2. He must journey along the high roads and not walk or lie down in the lanes or fields.
3. As he walks he must take care not to trample upon us or our horses, nor lift us up unless we agree.

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

4. If express messages have to be sent long distances he must carry the horse and rider in his pocket.
5. The Man Mountain must help us against our enemies and in doing heavy work.
6. He shall have food and drink each day enough for about two thousand little people, and be allowed to see the Emperor at any time.

When I had signed the paper, my chains were unlocked and I was free. The first request I made was to visit Mildendo, the chief city. The Emperor consented, warning me to be very careful. When I arrived I saw that the city wall was two and a half feet high and wide enough for a carriage to be driven on the top. I easily stepped over the gate and walked through the two chief streets, taking off my coat lest it might catch or damage the roofs of the houses. The people were ordered to stay safely indoors, but they crowded to the windows and roofs. I had, indeed, never seen so many before.

FREEDOM

The city is a square, and two main streets (each five feet wide) divide it into four quarters. The lanes and by-streets were much too narrow for me to tread.

The King's palace was in the middle of the city. He wanted me to see the royal rooms, but this was very difficult, for the gates leading from one courtyard to another were very small, and the buildings being about five feet high I could not step over them without damaging them.

So I spent three days cutting down enough trees with my penknife to make two stools, each about three feet high. Standing on one I put the other over into the courtyard, then stepped over on to it.

Lying down on my side I put my eyes close to the windows, which had been left open on purpose. I saw the beautiful royal rooms and the Empress and her children. She even put her hand out of the window for me to kiss.

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

LIFE IN LILLIPUT

I WILL now describe my way of living in Lilliput. From the largest trees in the royal park I made a table and chair for myself. Two hundred needlewomen were necessary to make my shirts and sheets and tablecloths. They chose the thickest material they had, and even this they had to sew in several folds to make it strong enough for my use.

They measured me with a long cord as I lay on the ground, and by the help of my old shirt, which I stretched on the ground for a pattern, they fitted me exactly.

Three hundred tailors were employed to make my suit. They measured me in a different way. I knelt down and they put a ladder from the ground to my neck. Climbing up, one of them let down a cord from my collar to the floor. This showed them the length of my coat; my waist and arms I measured myself. When finished my clothes looked something like patchwork, being made of

LIFE IN LILLIPUT

many pieces, though fortunately all of the same colour.

Three hundred little people cooked my food in huts near at hand, each cook preparing two things. I used to take twenty waiters in my hand and put them on my table, while a hundred more stood on the ground with dishes of meat and barrels of wine slung on their shoulders. The waiters drew up this food with cords as from a well.

Each dish of meat was only one mouthful for me. Their turkeys and geese, which were no bigger than our sparrows, I ate in one bite, bones and all. This astonished my servants greatly.

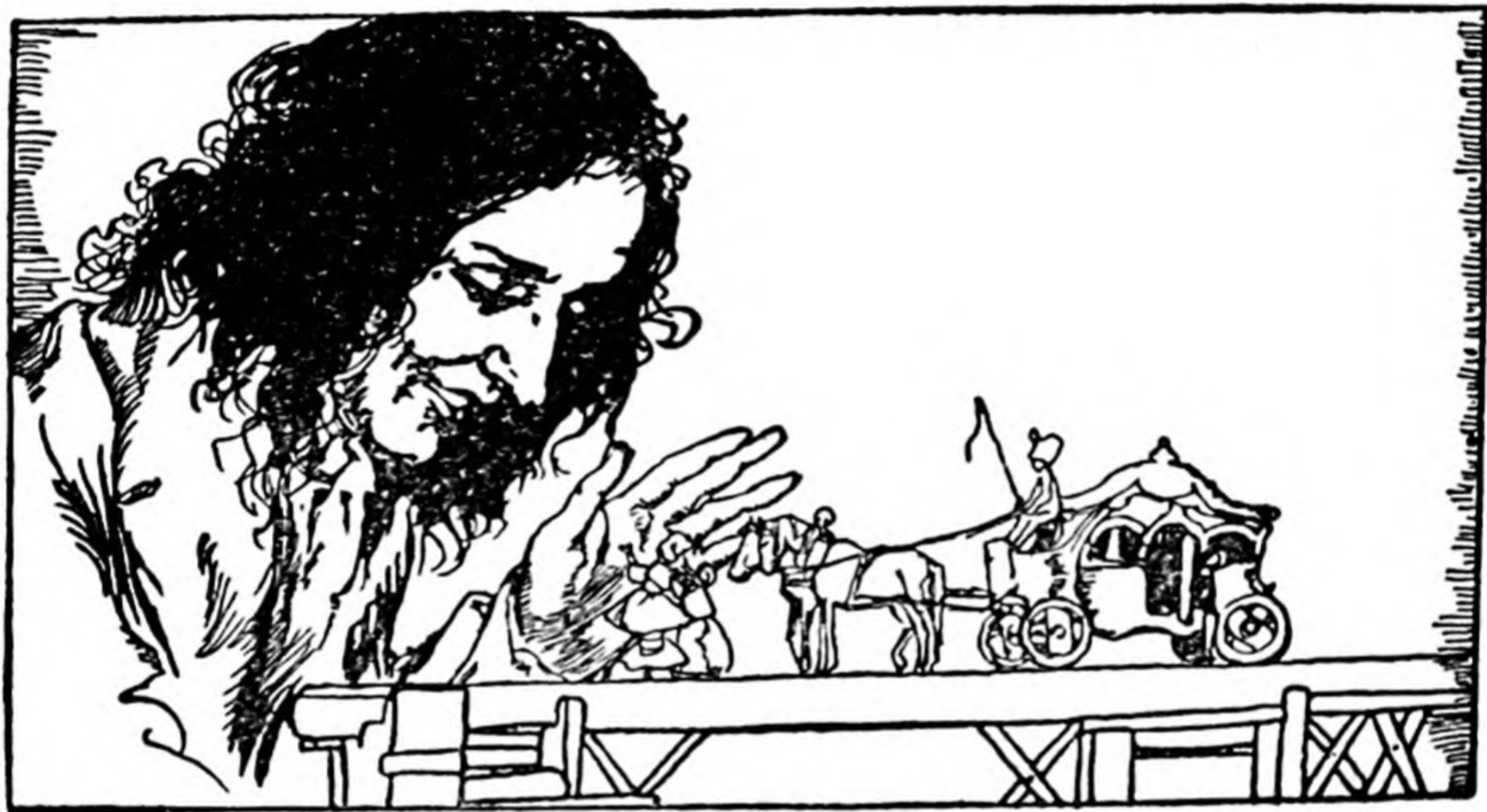
The Lilliputians had wonderful eyesight. I once saw a girl threading a needle with silk. She did it quite easily, though to my eyes both needle and silk were too tiny to be seen at all.

Their horses were about four inches high, and a sheep only one and a half inches, while larks were no bigger than flies.

One day the Emperor asked if the princes and he could have dinner with

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

me. I put them with their guards in chairs on my table. Flimnap, the great noble, came also, but did not seem very friendly. I pretended not to notice his unkind looks, but I am sure he complained afterwards



I USED TO TAKE UP THEIR COACH AND HORSES AND PLACE THEM ON A TABLE

about the cost of my food and said that the King had better get rid of me.

When people came to visit me I used to take up their coach and horses and place them on a table. Often I had four coaches at once, and while I was talking to one set the coachmen would drive the others round my table till I was ready to receive them.

THE ENEMY'S SHIPS

THE ENEMY'S SHIPS

A FORTNIGHT later Reldresal, the King's chief noble, asked to talk with me. I offered to lie down, so that he could reach my ear easily, but he chose rather to let me hold him in my hand.

He said the Lilliputians were not always friendly. They quarrelled as to whether people should wear high or low heels, and they even went to war with the people of another island called Blefuscu to decide which was the right end to break the shell of an egg before eating it. The quarrels had gone on till now a large fleet was about to sail from Blefuscu to conquer Lilliput, and the King wanted my help.

I said I could not understand their quarrelling over such unimportant matters, but I would try to capture the enemy's ships. I therefore went to the shore and lying down behind a hill looked through my spy-glass to the harbour of

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

Blefuscu. There I saw about fifty battle-ships and other vessels ready to start.

Fetching plenty of ropes (about as thick as thread) and bars of iron (about the size of knitting needles) I bent one end of the bars and fixed them to the ropes.

Taking off my coat, shoes, and stockings I waded out towards Blefuscu. About midway the water was deeper but I swam till it was more shallow, and soon I reached their ships.

The sailors were so frightened at sight of me that they leaped out and escaped ashore. I fastened a cord to each of the ships and tied them all together.

It was not easy to do this, for the enemy shot thousands of arrows which hurt me, and, if I had not worn my spectacles, might have blinded me.

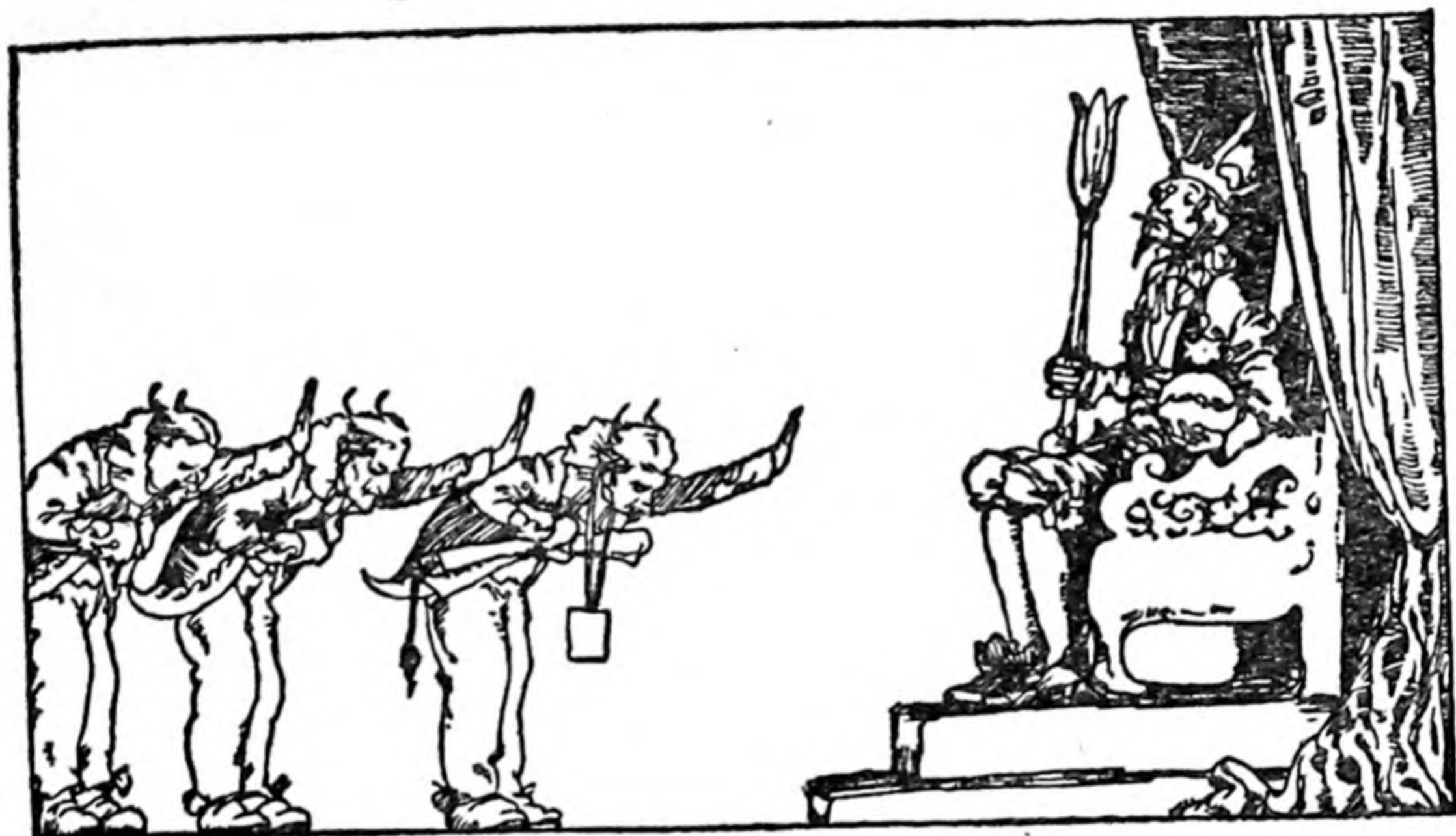
Cutting the ropes that held the anchors of the ships I took up the knotted end of the cords and turning towards Lilliput easily drew all the fifty ships after me.

The people of Blefuscu were alarmed and shouted in despair. When out of

THE ENEMY'S SHIPS

danger I stopped a while to pick out the arrows from my hands and face, and taking off my spectacles waded on towards Lilliput.

The Emperor and his whole Court



FROM BLEFUSCU TO MAKE PEACE

stood on the shore. They saw the ships coming, but not noticing me, for I was up to my neck in water, they feared that I was drowned, and that the enemy was returning.

However, directly I came within hearing I shouted "Long live the King of Lilliput!" and their fears turned to rejoicing.

The King gave me the highest title

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

of honour in the land as a reward, and asked me to capture the other vessels as well, but I said I felt that was unfair. The King never quite forgave me for this answer, and some of the nobles became unfriendly and even plotted later to do me harm.

About three weeks after six great lords and about five hundred attendants arrived from Blefuscu to make peace, and they invited me to visit their island one day, which I promised to do.

ENEMIES AT COURT

ONE evening an important person of the Court came and asked to speak with me in secret. I therefore put him and his carriage into my pocket and, telling my servant I must not be disturbed, locked my door, placed the carriage on my table and sat down.

I asked why he was so worried, and he said he came as a friend to warn me of enemies at Court. He read from a paper in which it said I was a traitor because

ENEMIES AT COURT

I had refused to conquer Blefuscu and was making plans to go there.

Flimnap, being jealous of me, was my chief enemy and had suggested I should be killed by setting fire to my house at night, while twenty thousand men were to shoot poisoned arrows and pour poison over my sheets and clothes. They had almost decided to do this when Reldresal, who was friendly to me, spoke well of me, and in the end the Emperor agreed not to kill me, but to put out both my eyes. In three days' time twenty doctors were to shoot arrows into my eyes as I lay on the ground.

When my visitor had finished he made haste to go as secretly as he had come, lest he should be discovered, and killed for telling me of their plans.

For a while I lay wondering what to do. Then I decided to prepare hastily for my promised visit to Blefuscu. Going to the shore, I seized one of the war-ships and into it put my clothes and bed-covers. Wading and swimming I drew the ship after me to Blefuscu,

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

where the people were expecting me, though they did not know of the plot against me at Lilliput.

Two guides came to take me to their chief city. I carried these on my hands



I DREW THE SHIP AFTER ME

till we reached the gate. Soon the Emperor and all his Court came out to welcome me, and I lay on the ground to kiss the hands of the King and Queen. They had no house or bed for me, but I rested at night on the ground wrapped in my coverlet.

BACK TO ENGLAND

BACK TO ENGLAND

THREE days later while walking by the coast I saw what looked like an overturned boat. Pulling off my shoes and stockings I waded out about two hundred yards and saw it was indeed a real boat and was being brought nearer and nearer by the tide.

Returning to the city I asked the King to lend me twenty ships and three thousand seamen. These sailed round by the coast while I went back the shortest way and by wading and swimming managed to reach the boat. I fastened ropes to it from the fleet, then swam behind it, pushing it forward with my hands, while the sailors towed it towards the shore. We left it about forty yards from the beach and waited till the tide was out, when, with the help of two thousand men and ropes and machines, we turned it right side up.

It seemed a large vessel to the sailors, but I told the Emperor that good fortune

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

had put it in my way, for now I could get home to England again, and I begged him to help me prepare for the voyage.

Five hundred workmen made two sails by joining thirteen folds of their strongest linen together. To make ropes I twisted thirty of their cords into one. A great stone acted as an anchor and from the tallest trees I shaped oars.

I stored the boat with the meat of a hundred oxen, three hundred sheep, and as much food as three hundred cooks could provide. I also took live cows and sheep, with hay and corn for their food. I wanted to take some of the little people, but was not allowed to do so.

In about a month all was ready. The King and Empress came to see me start. I lay down to kiss their hands, and the Emperor gave me money and his portrait, which I put into my glove to keep safe.

I set sail on September 24, 1701, and by evening had reached a small island, where I rested, then steered on again. Two days later I spied a ship in the

BACK TO ENGLAND

distance. I hailed her, but alas those on board did not hear me. However, I managed to gain upon her, and at last she saw my signals. When I came near I rejoiced to find the English colours flying



I SET SAIL

and learned that the ship was bound from Japan to England.

Putting the cows and sheep into my coat-pockets, I climbed on board. The captain treated me kindly, but would not believe my story till I took out my cattle from my pocket and showed him the money and the King's portrait.

We reached England with no worse accident than that a rat ate one of my

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

sheep. The rest I put to graze on a bowling-green in Greenwich. I made much money by showing my cattle to noblemen, and at last sold them for six thousand pounds.

BROBDINGNAG

THE LAND OF GIANTS

I STAYED only two months in England, for I was restless and longed to travel again, so bidding good-bye to my wife and family I set off, in June 1702, aboard the *Adventure*, bound for Surat, in India.

At first we had a good voyage, and wintered at the Cape of Good Hope for repairs to our ship. Later a terrible storm overtook us, and we drifted far out of our way till on June 16, 1703, we sighted land, and the next day came in full view of a great island called Brobdingnag (though we did not know its name then).

Casting anchor the captain sent men ashore in a small boat for water. Being anxious to see the country I went also, and after wandering about for some time returned weary to the shore. To my

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

surprise I saw our men were rowing for their lives back to the ship. I was about to shout to them, when I saw a huge creature wading towards them in the sea. He took great strides but our men had the start, and the sea being full of sharp-pointed rocks the monster could not overtake them.

I ran hastily up a steep hill to view the country. Everything was monstrous, the grass was twenty feet high and the corn in the fields twice that height. I was an hour crossing one field, and then came to a stile. I could not possibly climb it, for each of the four steps was six feet high. Just then I noticed one of the giants. He looked as tall as a church steeple. I hid in the corn and heard him call out in a voice which seemed high in the air like thunder. Then seven monsters like himself came, and with huge reaping-hooks began to cut the corn.

I kept as far from them as possible, but at length one came so near that I expected every moment either to be

AT THE FARMER'S HOUSE

crushed to death under his foot or cut in two with his scythe. I screamed aloud.



HE ESPIED ME ON THE GROUND

He looked around and at last espied me on the ground.

AT THE FARMER'S HOUSE

THE giant thought for a moment. Then he ventured to pick me up, holding me about three yards from his eyes. I did not struggle, but holding my hands together looked up at the sun and spoke in a humble voice.

He seemed pleased with me. I could not help groaning, however, and turning

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

my head to my side I showed him that his thumb and finger hurt me. Putting me gently into his pocket he ran off to his master.

The farmer was very curious about me, poking under the flaps of my coat with a straw which felt like a walking-stick. He blew back my hair to get a better view, then put me on the ground on all-fours.

I got up and walked to and fro, while the giants sat down to watch me. I pulled off my hat and bowed, then fell on my knees, and lifted up my hands and eyes. Taking out my purse of gold I gave it to the farmer. He held it in his palm, and then put it close to his eye to examine it. Afterwards he turned it over with a pin, but not understanding it made a sign for me to put it in my pocket again.

Taking out his handkerchief he spread it out for me to step on to it, which I did. Wrapping me up he took me home to his wife. At first she was frightened and screamed, though I looked no bigger than a spider or frog to her, but she soon grew used to me.

AT THE FARMER'S HOUSE

At twelve a servant brought in dinner. The giant's plate was twenty-four feet wide. He placed me on the table, and his wife minced some meat and crumbled bread on a plate for me. I bowed, took out my knife and fork, and began to eat. When I drank they laughed heartily at me, and the noise of their laughter was deafening.

In walking to my master I stumbled against a crust and fell flat on my face, but I was not hurt. The farmer's son, a boy of ten, took me up by my legs and held me so high that I trembled in every limb. His father snatched me away and gave the boy a severe box on the ears as punishment.

During dinner my mistress's favourite cat leaped into her lap. Its purring was like the noise of a dozen weavers at work, but though it seemed three times bigger than an ox it did me no harm.

Later on a nurse came in with a child a year old in her arms. The child, wanting me for a plaything, seized me, and put my head in his mouth. I roared, and

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

the child dropped me. Fortunately I fell into the mother's apron, or I should have been killed.

Seeing I was very tired, my mistress



I WAS ABLE TO KEEP IT OFF

put me on her own bed, covering me with her handkerchief, which was as large and coarse as the sail of a warship. I slept about two hours and awoke to find two rats, each the size of a big dog, with tails two yards long, running to and fro on my bed. One came right up to my face, but with my sword I was able to keep it off.

MY HELPER

MY HELPER

MY mistress and her clever daughter of nine years fitted up a doll's cradle for my bed, which I used all the time I was in Brobdingnag.



SHE TAUGHT ME THEIR LANGUAGE

This young girl also made me seven shirts, though the linen was coarser than sailcloth. She taught me their language and gave me the name of 'Grildrig,' which means 'little man.' I called her 'Glumdalclitch,' or 'little nurse' (though she was forty feet high).

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER



MY MASTER GAINED MUCH MONEY BY SHOWING ME

MY HELPER

When it became known that my master had found a tiny animal like a human being, people came from all parts to see me. I was placed on the table, and would walk and talk and eat and draw my sword to please them.

Then my master decided to take me next market-day to the town twenty-two



I WAS SHOWN TEN TIMES EVERY DAY

miles away, and at the Green Eagle Inn to show me as a great wonder. I was put in a box, which was fitted with a door, and gimlet holes were bored to let in air. My nurse kindly put her own quilt inside. I was glad of this, for the horse went forty feet every step, and made my box rock like a ship in a storm.

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

At the inn I was put on a table, and my nurse was there to tell me what to do. Hundreds of people, thirty at a time, came in to see me.

During the next ten weeks my master took me to eighteen other towns, and gained much money by showing me. My nurse used to ride with him on his horse and carry me on her lap in a box which was strapped round her waist. She had lined the box with their softest cloth and made a doll's bed there for me.

At last we reached the chief city. There I was shown ten times every day, and the hard work I did soon made me thin and weak, while the farmer grew more and more greedy for money.

About this time a messenger came from the Court ordering my master to take me to the Queen's palace. Her Majesty was delighted with my tricks and asked me about my own country and travels. She paid my master a thousand pieces of gold so that I could live at the Court always, while she arranged for my nurse, Glumdalclitch, to remain as well.

LIFE AT COURT

LIFE AT COURT

THE Queen took me in her hand to the King and putting me on the writing-table bade me tell the King my story. At first he thought I must be made of clockwork, or be some strange animal trained to talk, but at last he believed me, and said I must be treated with great care.

My nurse was given grand rooms in the palace with servants to wait upon her. A box sixteen feet square and twelve feet high was fitted up as my bedroom, with windows and door. The ceiling opened so that my bed could be lifted out each day to air. There were two chairs and tables and a wardrobe. The walls, ceiling, and floor were thickly padded so that I should not be hurt when people carried my house about.

The lock of my door was huge to me, though it was the smallest ever made in this land of giants. Their thinnest silks were thicker than an English

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

blanket, so that my clothes felt heavy to me.

The Queen always liked me to dine with her. I had a table placed on hers, and my chair was near her elbow. I had a whole set of silver dishes and plates to myself. She used to put a piece of meat on my dish, and I carved it for myself.

Her appetite was enormous. She took up at one mouthful as much as a dozen ordinary people could eat at a whole meal. Two whole loaves were just one bite to her, and at each meal she drank more than a barrellful of wine from a monstrous golden cup, while her knives were twice as long as a scythe. At first these things made me feel ill, but afterwards I became used to the giants and their ways.

The Court dwarf used to annoy me, for though a dwarf to the giants he was five times as big as myself. One day he dropped me into a jug of cream, and if I had not been a good swimmer I should have been drowned.

LIFE AT COURT

Glumdalclitch rescued me, but not before I had swallowed a quart of cream and spoiled my clothes. The dwarf was



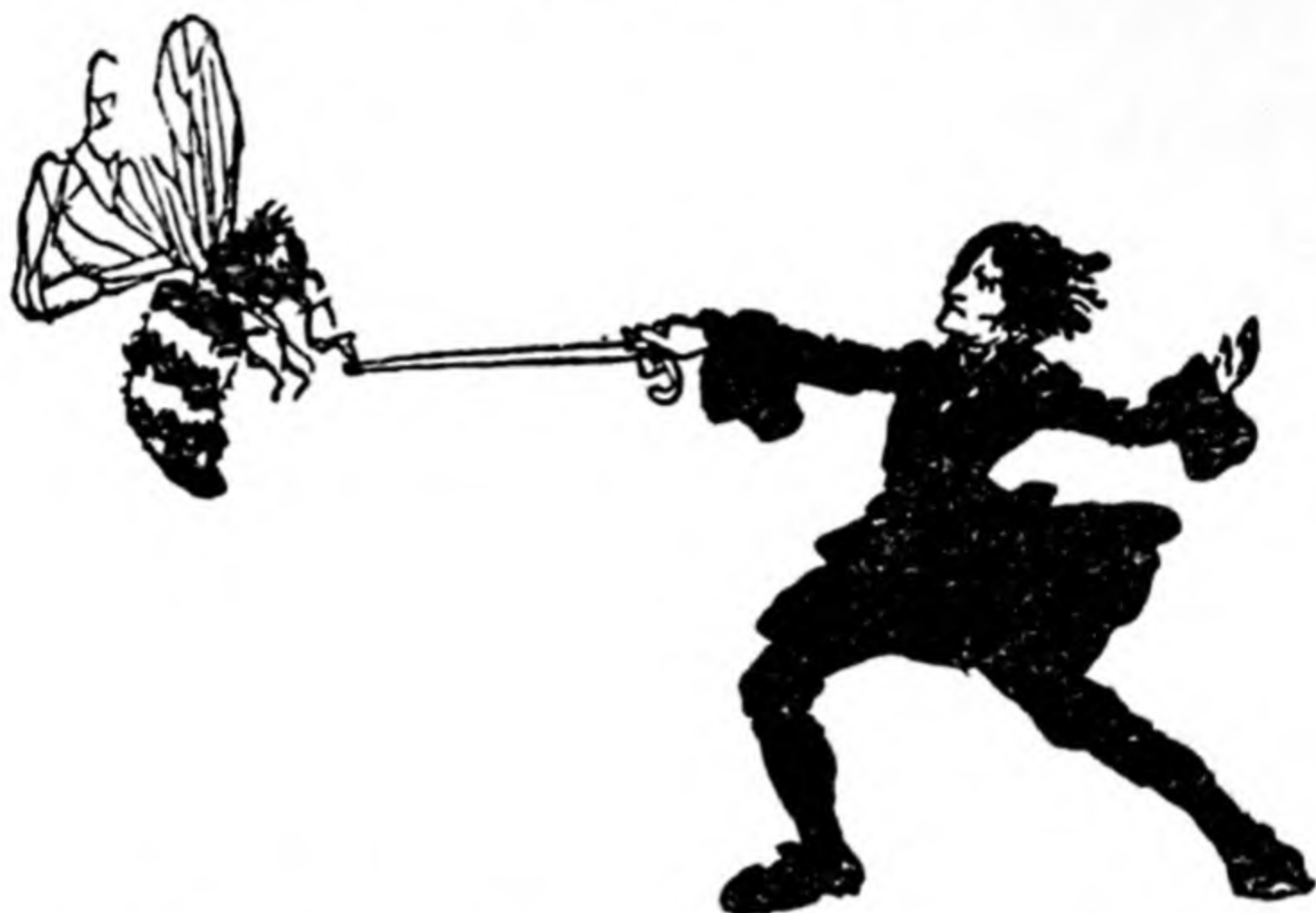
HE DROPPED ME INTO A JUG OF CREAM

soundly whipped as a punishment, and made to drink the whole jug of cream.

The flies in Brobdingnag were hateful insects as big as larks. To tease me, the dwarf used to catch a number of them in his hand and let them free suddenly under my nose. All I could do was to slash at them with my knife as they flew about. Another time he squeezed my legs into a marrow-bone as far as my waist.

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

Once Glumdalclitch put my box out on the window-sill, and I was about to eat a piece of cake when more than twenty wasps as big as partridges came



flying in, buzzing louder than twenty bagpipes. Some flew off with my cake, and of the others I killed four with my sword. I took out their stings, which were one and a half inches long, and these I afterwards brought home as curiosities.

MORE ADVENTURES AT COURT

NOW besides the large box in which I slept a smaller one was made for travelling, and I should have lived very happily if I had not been so small. This sometimes caused accidents.

MORE ADVENTURES AT COURT

One day Glumdalclitch had left me on a smooth plot of grass when there was a heavy storm of hail. I sheltered myself by lying flat on my face, but the huge hailstones bruised my body so much that I could not go out for days.

Another time, when left in the garden, a white spaniel wandered near where I lay and, taking me in his mouth, carried me to his master. Fortunately he did not hurt me or even tear my clothes.

Once an enormous bird hovering over the garden made a swoop at me, and if I had not drawn my sword, and run under a wooden framework near, it would have carried me away in its claws.

The Queen often heard me talk of my voyages, and asked me to plan a boat, which her workmen would build. Then I could sail this on water in a wooden trough in the palace grounds, for my boat would be immediately upset if I ventured on their huge rivers, where the smallest vessel is as big as an English man-of-war.

In ten days my boat was finished, and

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

I often sailed it in the wooden trough. The Queen was much amused and the ladies sometimes made a wind for me with their fans. Each day Glumdalclitch



▲ HUGE FROG GOT INTO THE BOAT

used to carry my boat back to her room, where she hung it on a nail to dry. One day a huge frog got into the boat and nearly upset it. I had to bang it with one of my oars until I made it jump back into the water.

The greatest danger I ever had was from a giant monkey. Glumdalclitch had locked my house in her room, but

MORE ADVENTURES AT COURT

one day, as it was warm, her window was left open.

Suddenly something bounced in, skipping from side to side. I was frightened but did not move. I then saw it was a monkey. It kept frisking and leaping about, grinning and chattering, and at length espied me in my house. Reaching in one paw, as a cat does when playing with a mouse, it seized the lappet of my coat and dragged me out.

I struggled, but it squeezed me so hard I thought it best to lie still. It seemed to mistake me for a baby and began stroking and patting my face with its huge paw.

A sudden noise at the door startled it, and holding me in one paw it escaped on three legs through the window, and clambered along the gutter on to the roof.

Glumdalclitch shrieked, and soon all the palace was in an uproar. Servants ran for ladders, but the monkey sat calmly on the roof. It held me like a baby, cramming into my mouth nuts,

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

which it had squeezed out of its own, till I was nearly choked.

The monkey saw men coming up the ladders and, not being able to run quickly enough with me, let me drop on to a ledge of the roof, and escaped.

I expected every minute to be blown down by the wind or to tumble from giddiness, but before long a servant rescued me. I was so bruised that I had to stay in bed a whole fortnight. The monkey was killed, and no others were allowed to live at the palace.

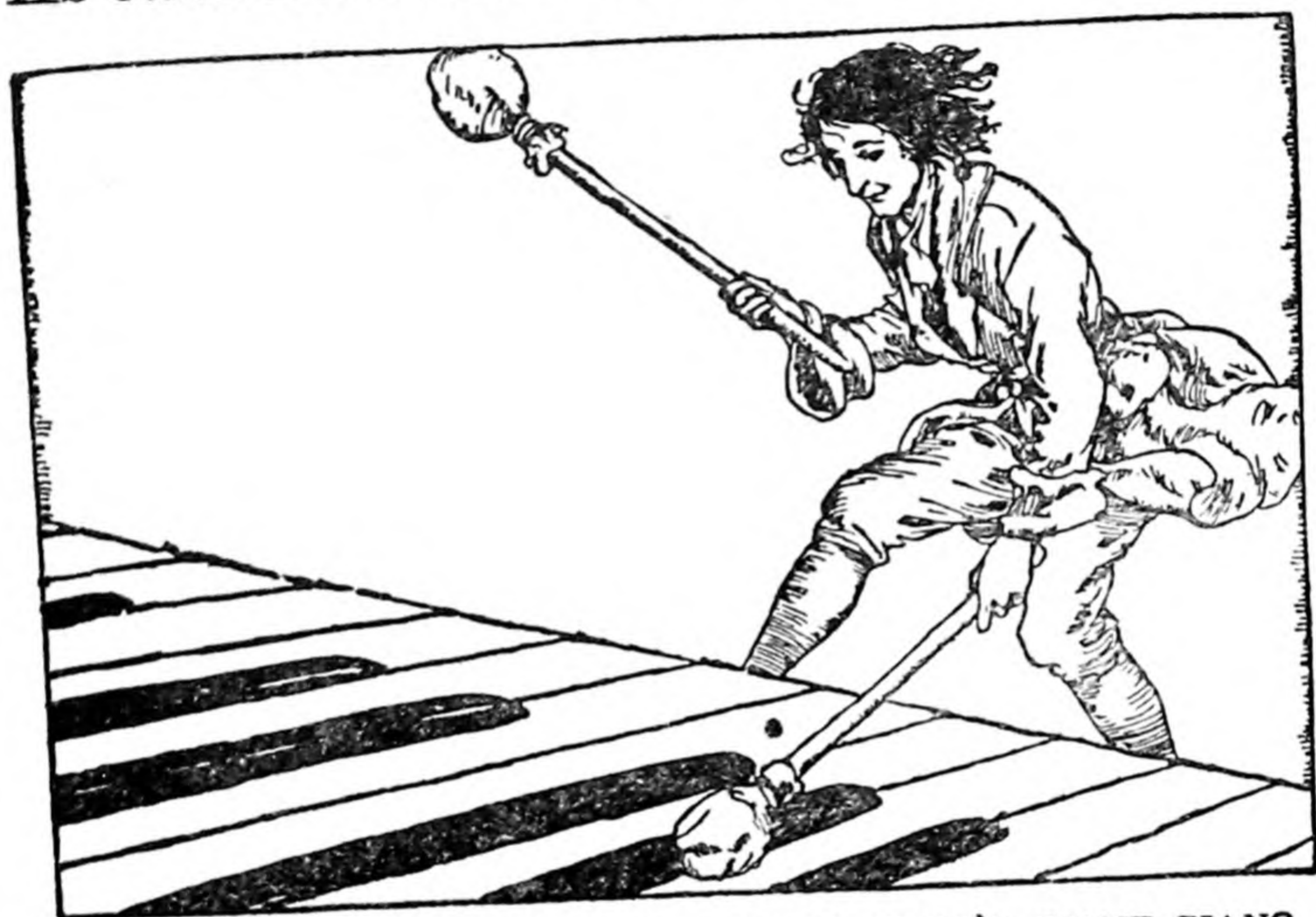
AN ADVENTURE WITH AN EAGLE

WHEN I recovered I found many interesting things to do. I made a comb for myself by fastening some of the King's hairs (which were very coarse and thick and strong) to a piece of wood. With other hairs I wove backs and seats of chairs and made a purse also about five feet long.

The King often took me to concerts,

AN ADVENTURE WITH AN EAGLE

but the noise was so terrible I could not tell the tune at all. Once I played an English song on the King's giant piano. As each note was a foot wide I had to run



I PLAYED AN ENGLISH SONG ON THE KING'S GIANT PIANO

along a little platform and bang the right notes with a long stick. This amused the Court, but was very hard work for me.

The royal books were so big that I had to climb a ladder twenty feet high to read them. Beginning at the top I walked along a little platform to read one line, then down a step to the next line, and so on to the bottom of the page.

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

One day when talking to the King I told him about England, the people, the King and Parliament, the schools and churches, and many other things, and he listened with great interest.

I had been among the giants about two years when a strange accident happened.

The King and Queen going on a journey to the seaside, I was carried as usual in my travelling-box. As we came near the sea-coast Glumdalclitch unfortunately fell ill and had to stay in bed. I longed to go on the shore, so begged leave to take the sea air with one of the pages.

Glumdalclitch was unwilling, and even cried because she was too weak to go herself, but at last she agreed, giving strict orders to the page to guard me most carefully.

The boy took me towards the rocky coast, and, telling him to put my box down, I got into my hammock and fell asleep. I suppose while I slept the boy must have left me and climbed among the rocks searching for birds' eggs, for

A RESCUE

suddenly I was awakened by a sharp pull upon the top of my box, which was lifted high into the air and carried forward at great speed. Hearing a flapping of wings I knew that an eagle, or other huge bird, had seized my box and was bearing it over the sea.

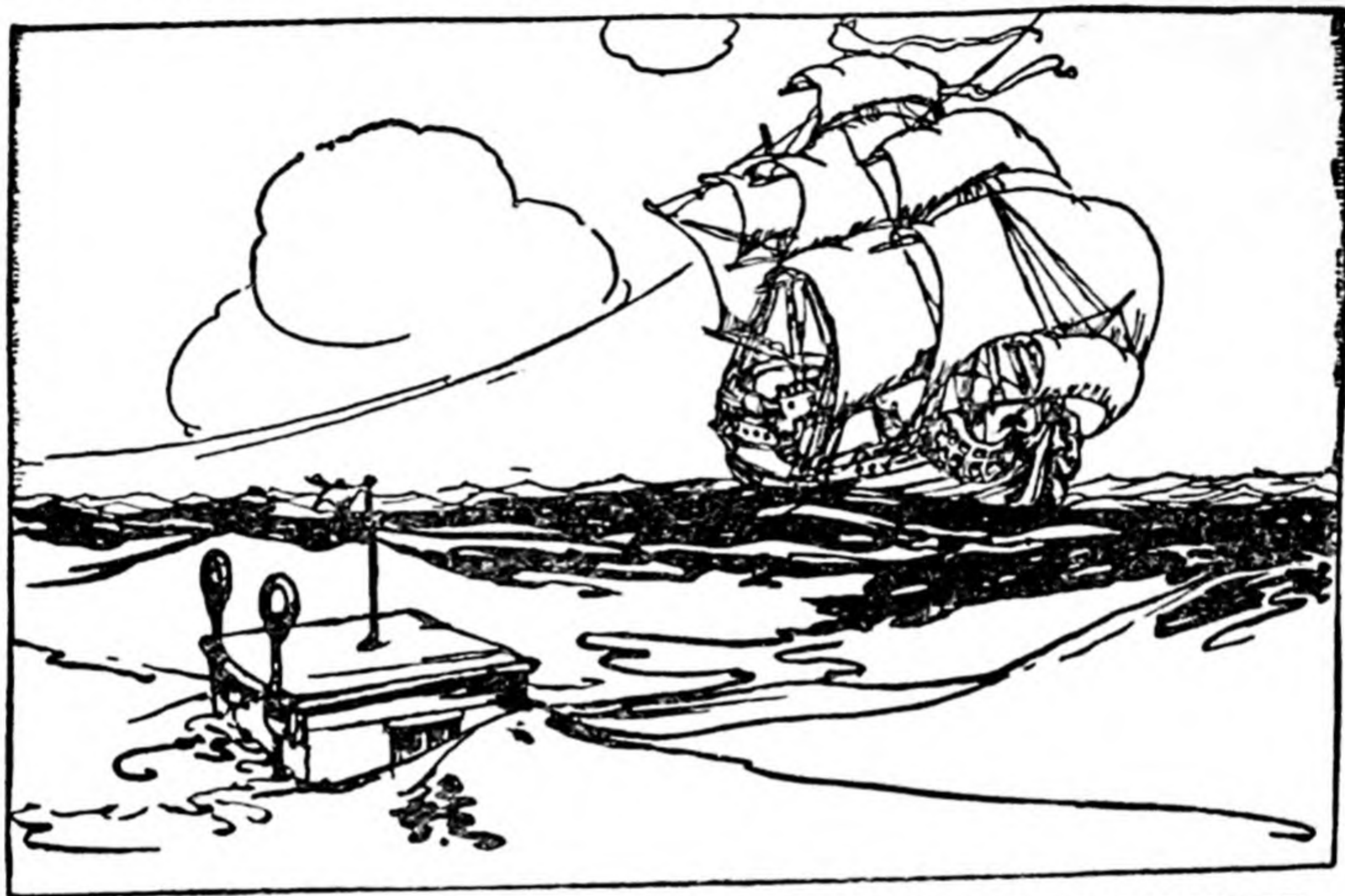
A RESCUE

I COULD see nothing but clouds and sky. Then the flutter of wings grew louder (for other eagles were near), and my box swung up and down like a sign-post in the wind. There were bangs, as if a struggle was going on, and suddenly I felt myself falling—falling—to the sea. A terrible splash followed, and I was in the dark for an instant. Then my box rose and I could see the light through my windows. Fortunately my box was watertight and floated on the waves.

I opened the hole in the roof to let in air, for I was almost stifled, and expected every minute to be dashed to pieces or overturned, but the box still floated on.

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

Before long I heard a grating noise, and fancied my box was being pulled along somehow. I stood on a chair and shouted for help through the hole in the



I FASTENED MY HANDKERCHIEF TO A STICK AND WAVED IT THROUGH THE HOLE

roof. I also fastened my handkerchief to a stick and waved it through the hole.

Nothing happened, however, till suddenly my box struck something hard and was tossed about violently. Then gradually I found I was being pulled upward. I shouted, and to my joy heard a voice say, "If there is anyone there, speak!" Again I shouted, and soon

A RESCUE

knew that an English ship was rescuing me.

Carpenters sawed a hole in my box, and I climbed on to their ship by a ladder. I had lived with giants so long that the sailors at first looked like dwarfs.

They gave me food and asked me my story. They thought I was mad when I begged them to bring up my box and told them that in it they would find a bed, two chairs, a table, a cupboard, and a room padded with silk and cotton. However, they found that my tale was true, and they saved some of the things, but the box they let sink to the bottom.

After I had slept, the captain told me that at first he thought my box was a ship, but afterwards had found his mistake and had sent out a small boat to tow the box to his ship.

He wondered if I had been cast adrift in the box as a punishment, but I told him all my story, and to prove it was true showed him the comb, the wasp-stings, some needles eighteen inches long, and a gold ring the Queen had

THE CHILDREN'S GULLIVER

given me which was big enough to go over my head like a collar.

I talked very loudly at first for I had been used to shouting to make my voice reach the giants. Everything now looked very tiny to me. The dishes, cups, and furniture, and all else, seemed ever so small after the enormous things I had seen.

We reached England in June, 1706. There, too, things seemed so tiny that I fancied I must be back in Lilliput again, and I made several stupid mistakes. I bent my head at the door fancying it was very low and that I should bump my head. I stooped when my wife ran to kiss me, thinking she would not be big enough to reach me.

She thought me very strange at first, but gradually she came to understand my wonderful adventures among the Pygmies and the Giants.

